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## **National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week**

The week of April 9<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006 the has been designated by the Congress of the United States as PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK in recognition of the men and women whose dedication and professionalism help keep all citizens safe.

The safety of police officers, firefighters and emergency medical service providers that serve our citizens are dependent on the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who contact public safety dispatch centers.

Telecommunicators assist in the saving of many lives, the apprehension of criminals and prevention of considerable property loss each year. The members of public safety dispatch centers exhibit compassion, understanding and professionalism during their performance as Public Safety Telecommunicators.

911 telecommunicators provide 24-hour communication between citizens and public safety responders. The number 911 is universally recognized as being the one to report emergencies where police, fire or medical assistance is needed. The call can be made from any telephone, including cell phones with or without basic service, and from any pay phone.

In Michigan, our state's 9-1-1 centers serve as the consistent point for our state's Fire, Police, and EMS dispatching services. 9-1-1 centers perform additional critical tasks beyond answering emergency calls such as: medical pre-arrival instruction, notice to families, towing services, hospitals, road commissions and DPW notification, activating weather alerts, and call-outs (Medical Examiners, Emergency Support teams, accident investigation, etc.), recording services to public safety, and routine public safety dispatching.

The Michigan Emergency Telephone Service Committee\* recognize the efforts of these vital hard-working men and women.

\*The Emergency Telephone Service Committee was established in accordance with P. A. 79 of 1999. Its 21 member organizations work together to promote the successful development, implementation, and operation of 9-1-1 systems across the state of Michigan. For more information on Michigan's 9-1-1 system, visit: www.michigan.gov/msp-etsc.



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